

Environmental Management Professionals

Environmental management professionals, as recognized under House Bill 1040, are persons who practice environmental management. Environmental management practice includes the following types of activities relating to the preservation and protection of natural resources: advising, teaching, researching, designing, investigating, preparing reports, collection and analysis of data, monitoring natural resources and habitats, and the assessment and remediation of environmental hazards and contaminants or potential hazards.

Under House Bill 1040, a Board of Environmental Management Professionals would be created to license and regulate those who practice environmental management. To qualify for a license, a person must complete the Board exam and pay the required *fees (see proposed G.S. §89G-6)*. The Board can establish different classes of licenses and qualifications for obtaining the license (*see proposed G.S. §89G-9*). It is unclear what the criteria for licensure would be beyond the examination, although testimony in the Committee and the grandfather clause in Section 2 of the bill, which grandfathers in those persons who have met certain educational or experience requirements, suggests that there would be similar educational or experience requirements imposed on all applicants. In addition, the sponsor notes in the questionnaire response that most environmental management professionals have a four year college degree (*see Question 12*).

The background on the involvement of the environmental management profession in underground storage tank removal and site remediation and air